

**REMARKS**

These remarks are set forth in response to the New Non-Final Office Action reopening prosecution following the Appeal Brief filed July 24, 2008. As this Response has been timely filed within the three-month shortened statutory period, neither a petition for an extension of time nor corresponding petition fee is required. Presently, claims 1 through 18 are pending in the Patent Application. Claims 1, 7 and 13 are independent in nature.

In the Non-Final Office Action, Examiner indicates allowability of claims 2, 8 and 14 excepting for the respective dependence of claims 2, 8 and 14 upon rejected base claims 1, 7 and 13. In response, Applicants have amended claims 1, 7 and 13 to incorporate the limitations of claims 2, 8 and 14 and also Applicants have canceled claims 2, 8 and 14. Accordingly, the Applicants respectfully request the withdrawal of the rejections under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) owing to the foregoing remarks. The Applicants request that the Examiner call the undersigned if clarification is needed on any matter within this Amendment, or if the Examiner believes a telephone interview would expedite the prosecution of the subject application to completion.

Respectfully submitted,

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